HAMLETS OF SIXTY YEARS BOOTH, From Private to Major-General Is Harbord's FECHTER, IRVING AND BARRYMORE Record as He Leaves Army After 34 Years

Broadway's Shake- Noblest Dane of All spearian Revival Brings to Mind the Great Actors of the Past Who Played the Prince

By JOSEPH I. C. CLARKE.

HE exquisite young Hamlet of John Barrymore has captured the favor of the town to an almost passionate degree, and in the main justly. Outside the joy of his iment I got, however, another keen pleasure at the performance lust Saturday afternoon, born of seeing a urse of young, very "modern" women, making what seemed to be a first and delighted acquaintance with the masterpiece of William Shakespeare. Old playgoers know that the mental attipared classic of the stage has visible sign in the distinctly critical sensitive lowering and raising of the brows which accompanies all other facial marks of pleasure or the re-verse, while the round eyed, fixed aze, now charged with intensity, now dashing to light laughter betrays any audience on the first night of any absorbing play. And there were your first nighters of "Hamlet," clear, heartening—amusing. Old Polonius says to Hamlet, who was "walking in the

"What read you, my lord?"

Hamlet looking from his book says:
"Words, words, words,"

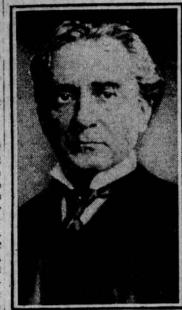
very wave of young crystalline laughter sweeps over the house. And so it went. Never was the First Grave Dieger's grim humor more tickling And of course the slim beauty of my lord Hamlet and his fire and his fencing found feverish response in fair young bosoms to the end.

Since the Barrymore-Hopkins pro-duction of the play was made here many have fallen to writing of the Hamlets of other days as well as our but one gains little light from a list. "I liked it;" "It was far bad;" "he suited me." Such phrases tell you nothing beyond one man's generalizations. For my part, looking over sixty years of Hamlets, ten of the years in London and the balance in our New World, I realize difficulty of an appraisement of the better Hamlets, because no mat-ter how fit you were to judge when you saw them, unless you saw them then they were really young Hamlets ming so, you are not furnished

Charles Kean's Portrayal

Kean, son of the great Edmund Kean, at Drury Lane Theater, London, in the Kean, son of the great Edmund Kean, at Drury Lane Theater, London, in the sixtles. I knew the play well, and took his interpretation as authoritative because of his paternity. Now I recognize it as a sort of solemn English lord, very correct in bearing and giving way to his emotions reluctantly, a highly trained actor, however, speaking the poetry of the part with skill and occasional depth. I recall one true note on the entrance of the Ghost. His cry, "Angels and ministers of grace, defend us!" had a ring of fear forced by the supernatural—something missing from most, if not all, the English Hamlets. His scene with his mother Hamlets. His scene with his mother Tableau! The board he split was tense and dramatic. What was rested on a large rain barrel in ally the matter with it was that Hamlet calls the "cellarage."

was not young Hamlet but a Booth and Sir Henry Irving -"the great Phelps" who played all of Shakespeare's plays and was best of all in the Falstaff of "Henry IV." well away from the spring of youth. let" a two seated throne was "dis-I saw one Hamlet at that early day covered" mounted on a platform with-I saw one Hamlet at that early day who came nearer to the ideal I was forming of the young Prince of Dennark, namely, Barry Sullivan. Here were grace, the appearance at least of acters were sitting down. The promption delightful embodiment with a warm prop at the back of the throne: look out." Much goings on, we know, mark



EDWIN BOOTH

of the original into a his emphasis as enforced by his ges-tures: "To die? well, to sleep-nothing more!" And again, with widening of the eyes before And again, with sudden Some Italian Hamlets commanding thought, "To die? yes. to sleep, to sleep!, perchance to dream!" It set a new terrific, signifiant gleam upon the lines that follow: "Ay, there's the rub;

passion at the end, the brilliant fencvisible years, threw him out of the ing, all made a whole very stirring, favor usually accorded his work, such noble and charming, and what I loved as his tremendous Othello, his superb ing, all made a whole very stirring, in it then—something new. It ran to Lear, his sublime Saul, his agonizing crowded houses for more than a hun-Conrad of "La Morte Civile." I do

about it. One was his pronounced French accent. It is safe to say that if his first appearance in London had been in "Hamlet" it would not have a week, but his three years of vivid appearance in romantic drams had made it so much the usual that I recall no critical stress being laid upon it. The other thing was that in the Ophelia of Kate Terry, elder sister of Ellen Terry, whom we knew here as so charming in the part, Fechter had the most radiant, touching, beautiful dream of maidenhood to support him that the stage had ever seen

The English critics did not take too kindly to Fechter's Hamlet. Romantic, yes, but not tragedy-oh, dear no,

not tragedy! les Kean's Portrayal

Let me not turn aside to note in detail the half dozen minor and the half score amateur Hamlets that I knew

No should another scene with an from public gaze. When the curtain went up on the last act of this "Hama noble, pliant carriage—in fine, ter was heard to say: "There's no

appointment. What I have said of the tolerance of Fechter's French accent in the part in London, their being used to it in many other parts, had doubtless operated there in Irving's favor also. We had not known him long enough to discount the queer tones and jerks and mannerisms of the man. His Matthias in "The Bells" I did not the shall be should be remembered by all Hamlets and Horatios. In the Barrymore production the endeavor to help the illusion by reduce off stage and a glint of light on the backdrop make only for an untimely curiosity. "Oh, is that the was a limbs." was a lurid, absorbing, colorful pat-tern of living, sinning and suffering, more's. The regular critics have done and his tones were simply part of the strange character. In "Hamlet" he salute him and wish him a sun until came somehow naked before us. His legs straight, thin and odd, his gait ance last long. with its peculiar halt, marred the ple-ture. As ill luck, too, would have it, there was a momentary slarm of fire that night in the play scene. An alcohol torch among the footlights on the little stage within a stage boiled over and ignited a small curtain. Two or three of the minor characters pulled did see his great Sir Glies Overreach) out the curtain and began stamping or Edwin L. Adams. I heard, I may mic. The audience sat perfeetly still, round eyed, watchful, The affair was before their eyes; they saw the edge of the moment of possible

the Italian, as one of great beauty, though lacking proper support; like-wise the Hamlet of the greater Italian, "For in that sleep of death what Temmaso Salvini. This performance, dreams may come." The scene at the grave, the closet not win high critical favor here." His recall, however, the tender beauty and Two things should be remembered thrill of the scene with the Queen

An English Hamlet



SIR JOHNSTON

a delightful embodiment with a warm spirituality. I saw him subsequently in other Shakespearian roles, but in nothing else did he reach the same heights, though always good. His dashing Falconbridge to the King John of Phelps at Drury Lane was fine. It would be hard to say at this late date why Barry's Hamlet did not become one of worldwide fame. Possibly because it was but a finer type of a Hamlet on the stiffer type of Kean and Phelps and Gustavus Brooke, which in turn followed the still older model of Garrick and Kemble.

The first intimation I had of a differing type was the Hamlet of the French actor Charles Fechter, who had been playing in English for some three or tour brilliant years. He had brought from Paris in his handsome person the very soul of Latin romance—its eager charm, its sweeping grace, its transfixing thrill, its piquant in the play where one with ophelia, its was the scene with Ophelia.

"Get the sould a summery." For sheer in 1870 that one moment of it pierces the days the playing in English for some beauty, it was the scene with Ophelia, its stransfixing thrill, its piquant in the play where one would grace and human delicacy and tender—that I have seen in the play was seen in the play was the scene with Ophelia, its piquant in the play and the fact driven. It was the scene with Ophelia, its was the scene with Ophelia, stanting the part at all a play again to the play was seen in the play was seen in the play was seen in the play and tender—the did put the antic disposition on the summery. For sheer its transfixing thrill, its piquant that the gload day and tender—the day in the part is a single platform went that the play where one would be hard to name a person the very soul of Latin romance—its eager charm, its sweeping grace.

"It could not help thinking I saw a twinkle in Irving's eye as he sald survival to the fate day.

The first intimation I had of a difference of the courtily and the fate day.

The first intimation I had of a difference and the dust!

The first man the play whe which procures the way in a first procure and the settled to 10 miles of a first procure and the settled of a first of a

A Reading of the Play By Edwin Forrest in '69 or '70

Of American Hamlets noted lately by Herbert S. Benton, I did not see those of E. L. Davenport (though I horror worn down to nothing and end almost without smoke. Bram Stoker whimsically mingled daintiness and avers that one young man ran up the center aisle in panic and that he punched his head and sent him back to his seat. I certainly did not see him. It was a good audience. But him. It was a good audience. But the total impression that Irving's Hamlet made on me was bizarre. At any rate he was over 45 then.

Some Italian Hamlets

And a Frenchman in Role

I recall the Hamlet of Ernesto Rossi, the Italian, as one of great beauty,

Let me in closing these recollections.

Let me in closing these recollections briefly recall a day of apotheosis and then a glimpse of the final exit of the

with Booth in the title part, as the Kan. entire bill. It was held at the Metropolitan Opera House in May. A tre-mendous audience greeted it, but it was the scene on the stage that struck ctresses in scores glad to play minor parts, glad to carry a spear or dress a scene to show passionate allegiance to Booth, their royal Dane. The leading characters were all of the best in the land. Lawrence Barrett was, the Winkle for twenty-five years, was the First Grave Digger, and Billy Florence of a score of triumphs the Sec-ond Grave Digger, and Ophelia was the sweet and dainty Helena Modjeska. mimic world in his own unquestioned right, and so acclaimed by 150 of the garden flowers of the theatrical parterre. It was the touching crown of his life's endeavor—apotheosis.

Wallack lasted but a few worths.

Mother is up to the very highest type of personification.

A foreign Hamlet worthy of kindly note was Forbes Robertson's, seen here quite often. It was finely tempered, discrete and faintly touched with fire. It described what might be called the school of Edwin Booth and was possibly the best that England had when There was another foreign Hamlet. Tremain loast of Thomas Bailey Aldrich, the poot, as Booth at midnight stood modestly in a corner of region and the proportion of the ablest men we have. He is not only a throughly capable officer, but he range room acknowledging the form to enter the results. The was in the small searced edifice.

There was another foreign Hamlet trained and the proportion of the ablest men we have. He is not only a throughly capable officer, but he range room acknowledging the form to the range of the ablest men we have. He is not only a throughly capable officer, but he great French actor, of the Theatter Francis stood up and bowed to an attention of the ablest men we have the same to the small searced edifice.

New York's Latest

It was in the same darmics to the daylook ing out on his beautiful statue as fem. A foreign Hamlet by the sculptor, Quinn, in the square of men, admits it when pressed.

A light French officer, who was next and the proportion of the same file of the same of the pulling men and distinction in the weight of the file of the square with Spain and in the Philippines.

Gen, Harbord hesitated, and then at the pulling men that the said the pertrait, for which he was the sift to the club by the officers of the marine britance and the present the said the pertrait, for which he was the sift the proportion of the same ghastly history in time yet occome the stifting, was to be a sift to the club by the officers of the marine britance and the pulling men and the file of the same state the pulling men and the preparedness with its train of untool Cavalry School. He served with hency and distinction in the was mere dayloc per population of the same state the preparedne Mother is up to the very highest type ing out on his beautiful statue as of men, admits it when pressed.

A foreign Hamlet worthy of kindly

New York's Latest



can night of the piece at Wallack's of the dead to the living seem possible Theater was of what I must call a dis-

dendorff, Said Joffre - "Ablest Officer I Know, Pershing's Opinion of the General

By DONALD A. CRAIG. New York Herald Bureau. | Washington, D. C., Dec. 9. AJOR-GEN. JAMES G. HAR-

BORD, deputy chief of staff of the United States Army, whom Gen. Pershing designated in his out the curtain and began stamping or Edwin L. Adams. I heard, I may on it, and in this the thin, odd legs of Hamlet himself joined lustily, making, I assure you, unexpected display of dancing agility at once commendters it proved. The part of Hamlet never to be forgotten battle of Belleau stood out robustly rather than finely. Wood and at Bouresches during the batt in his volume of basso sound the famous stand of the Second Division

of the oldest, long prospering actor-managers in America. Favorite of fortune as he so long had seemed, the news that he was in difficulties shocked the community. Two brother mana-the community. Two brother manabord. That is the universal opinion of his brother officers, of the men he

Idolized by All Under Him;

Made History at Belleau Wood A strict disciplinarian, yet idolized by his men from the toughest dough-boy in the ranks to the highest officer Ghost, Frank Mayo the King, John nity as an officer, yet upon occasion Gilbert the Polonius, John A. Lane mingling with his men as one of them. Horatio, Eben Plympton the Lacrtes. Gen. Harbord typines the best both in Joe Jefferson, who had played Rip Van American military and civil life. It is hard to write about him without using much that of the writer as of the men who know him most intimately and have served under him, and of his official superiors. Secretary Weeks in Despite the wonderful cast the ploti-formance was a pageant to the glori-fication of Edwin Booth rather than a play. It was our monarch of the a play. It was our monarch of the

his life's endeavor—apotheosis.

Wallack lasted but a few months thereafter, Edwin Booth but five years.

The end came quietly June 7, 1893, in his own site at the Players Club in Gramercy Park, in his sixtieth year—the building and institution he had royally rebuilt—Stanford White, the architect—and bestowed it on the theatrical profession and the kindred artical profession artical professio

in his rear, so that he could have them movement became necessary."
Gen. Harbord manifested his sur-

prise. Then he explained to the A Close Student of History
French officer the nature of the orders

then a glimpse of the final exit of the greatest Hamlet of my time.

It was surely in 1888 and in his sixty-eighth year that the day of ill fortune came to Lester Wallack, one of the cidest, long prospering actormanagers in America. Favorite of fortune as he so long had seemed, the news that he was in difficulties shocked the community. Two brother mana
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The surely in 1888 and in his sixty-eighth year that the day of ill don't have dedicated themselves, I feel that may retirement, thus saving some man unknown quantities."

It is no exaggeration to say that, next to Pershing, no man could be younger officers for whom I step aside, the community. Two brother mana
The surely in 1888 and in his screptional memory, for which they and the career to which they have dedicated themselves, I feel that may be readily recalls the names and faces with whom he has sources far outstrip him and he is sources far outstrip him and he is younger officers for whom I step aside, the community placed at a disadvantage.

The two surfaces to thick they are that the day of ill dors, the career to which they have dedicated themselves, I feel that he is famous. He seldom forgets a nad his exceptional memory, for which he is famous. He seldom forgets a date. Other officers are position of an officer for whom I step aside, source from the career to which they have dedicated themselves, I feel that he is famous. He seldom for the career to which they have dedicated themselves,

s but consistent."

Gen. Harbord is to be the president tage.

That was like Jim Harbord, his of the Radio Corporation of America. "I do not wish to overlook the gers, A. M. Palmer and Augustin Daly, suggested a great benefit for Lester's has commanded, of Secretary Weeks, relief. The whole acting profession seemed to volunteer for it. Finally they took the program in hand, and with one accord decided on "Hamlet" with one accord decided on "Hamlet" land yield the read on both sides from his prother officers say. When he was brother officers say. When he was him an opportunity for important constructive work looking toward the domination of air communication by domination division of 15,000 officers and men America, and through better under-turned out to bid him good-by. They standing between the peoples of the lined the road on both sides from his earth will make for more permanent utation of his country are intrusted to quarters to the outside gate of the peace. Needless to say, Gen. Harbord's post. The General never turned to services will still be at the command the right or left as he rode silently of the United States Government if through the immovable lines of men they should ever be needed in an emerat attention, but when he reached the realroad station to board his train motive of his life.

boy in the ranks to the highest officer under his command; raised from the ranks, yet honored by West Point graduates, and himself a great believer in the United States Military Academy; always maintaining his dignity as an officer, yet upon occasion mingling with his men as one of them, mingling with his men as one of them, familiar with army customs. commerce activities. that could be cited to show the sort of sentiment Gen. Harbord inspires in 23, only

in France just prior to the greatest engagement in its history. To have an army officer placed over the control of the Marine Brigade ington, Ill., and Lyon county, Kansas, a graduate of the Kansas State Agricultural College, and with a brigade over the control of the Marine Brigade in the control of the Marine Brigade in the control of the Marine Brigade in the command of the command of the Marine Brigade in the command of th an army officer placed over them at perience as a school teacher such a time might well have caused him, sought to enter the army resentment among the officers and en-listed men of the corps. But they to West Point. He had no political fought like demons, as everyone "pull," which counted for much more knows, with the result that Belleau in those days before competitive exknows, with the result that Beneau Wood is now named for them by order The sequel to this incident came a

was sitting for a portrait in oils to be the grades of

you see that man in a deck chair pour-ing over a blue book?" he said. "Well, that is one of the best all around sol-

the younger men in the army, and King of Poland in 1793 or for many Gen. Pershing, the leader of ou years before.—J. G. H."

That was a sample of his learning Major-Ge and after twenty-six years

to his new work and to laying by a a great commercial corporation he

When young Harbord at the age of him, sought to enter the army in 1889, few days ago when the correspondent to Spokane, Wash. He kept up his was talking with Gen. Harbord as he studies and went up rapidly through

was sitting for a portrait in oils to be hung in the Army and Navy Club of Washington.

"How did the Marine Corps feel was promoted to second lieutenant then and how does it feel now about July 31, 1891, and assigned to the having one of its own officers replaced Fifth Cavalry. In 1895 he graduated with distinction from the Infantry and preparedness with its train of untold

his keeping. Frequently the small pay of the officer is augmented by ex-change rates and lower living costs in

The way Gen. Harbord looks upon his job of soldiering and the way he will tackle his new job of president of is attracting nationwide attention.

"I occupy an executive position in one of the largest corporations doing business on this continent," he said ited. I am assistant to General Man-ager Pershing, who, like myself, works under the chairman of our local board, John W. Weeks. The operations of our firm are controlled through the great holding company, whose board of directors meets under the dome of the Capitol, in which all of you are

ou are preferred creditors.' He then went on to say that he did not believe the board of directors was in close touch with the stockholders, of Uncle Sam Limited and that it was failing to carry out the stockholders

on the shareholders have been neces program for the firm," he continued. bring itself to believe that you stock-

live on, and there is the retired list, which is supposed to make up for the loss of a chance to acquire a competence.

Introduction in the standing of the country, and to impair the standing of our organization through the country, An effort is being made to disparage our output and deny our claims for petence.